

THE BLOOMFIELD CITIZEN.

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BLOOMFIELD, N. J., SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1904.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

FIREHOUSES.

RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE PROPERTY AND ERECT HOUSES FINALLY ADOPTED.

Councilman Walker's Plan Preferred by the Majority of Councilmen to that of Councilman Farrand's Recommendation of the Purchase of the E. N. Dodd Building—Firemen and Others Surprised at the Result of the Vote—A New House for Active Hose Company and the Montgomery Hose Company Recognized.

The Town Council at its meeting Monday night adopted the following resolution:

"That the Fire Committee of the Council be and they are hereby authorized to solicit a competent architect or architects to furnish suitable plans, specifications and estimates of the cost for the erection of firehouses heretofore referred to and report the same to the Council with their recommendations for approval.

"Any subsequent proceedings in relation to the erection of said buildings, including the acceptance of bids, the awarding of contracts, or otherwise, to be as may be hereafter authorized by resolution of the Council.

"The Fire Committee are hereby authorized to negotiate for the purchase of such lots or parcels of land as in their judgment may be suitable for the purpose heretofore specified."

The scope of the plan that it is intended to carry out under the above resolution is the purchase of a plot of ground from Amzi Dodd on the south side of Bloomfield avenue, adjoining Thomas Decker's livery stable property, and the erection of a two-story brick building on the lot that will accommodate Essex Truck Company No. 1, and Phoenix Hose Company No. 1. The price of the property is given at \$3,750, and the estimated cost of the building is \$40,000. It is also proposed to purchase land on the east side of Orange street between Cross street and the Lackawanna Railroad, and erect a building there for Active Hose Company No. 2. The lot and building is estimated to cost \$4,000.

It is further proposed to purchase the building and property of Excelsior Hose Company No. 3, at the corner of Broad and James streets. The price to be paid is \$3,500. And it is also proposed to purchase property on Montgomery street near Orchard street and erect a building there to be used for fire purposes. The estimated cost of this last named land and building is \$1,500. The total net estimates of the cost of the above lands and buildings is \$22,750. If the above scheme is carried out it will be financed by means of an issue of bonds.

The adoption by the Council Monday night of the scheme for firehouses set forth above is another step in a matter that has been before the Council for several months, and in various phases.

Previous to the adoption of Monday night's resolution, it was confidently expected by the majority of members of Phoenix Hose Company and Essex Truck Company that R. N. Dodd's building on Glenwood avenue would be purchased for headquarters for those two companies, and it was also contemplated that the same building would be further utilized for all town purposes in the way of offices and storage rooms. The Chairman of the Fire Committee, Mr. Farrand, was known to be an ardent advocate of the purchase of the R. N. Dodd building, and it was confidently stated that a majority of the Councilmen were of the same opinion as Mr. Farrand. The defeat of Mr. Farrand's plan Monday night was a surprise to many of the firemen and numerous citizens.

At an adjourned meeting of the Town Council held Friday evening, January 23d, the advocates of the purchase of Dodd's building were in the majority in the Council and among the firemen, and the time was ripe for action, but Mr. Farrand yielded to Mr. Moore's request for further investigation of the firehouse matter and that delay proved fatal. Councilman James M. Walker of the Second Ward was decidedly antagonistic towards the purchase of the Dodd building, and it was demanded of him to demonstrate his opposition with something more tangible than talk. Mr. Walker accepted the challenge and secured plans for an attractive two-story building to be used for fire purposes alone. In the meantime a strong sentiment in the First and Second Wards against locating the town offices in that part of the Third Ward selected by Mr. Farrand was at work, and eventually turned a majority into a minority.

It having been announced that the firehouse matter would come up for action at the Town Council meeting Monday night, there was a large attendance of firemen and citizens present to watch the result of the contest over the choice of location of the combination firehouse.

Continued on page 2.

The Banner-Kronold Quartette.

On Tuesday evening last the Banner-Kronold String Quartette gave a concert to the Upper Montclair Congregational Church, which proved to be the great musical event of the season. The edifice was packed to the doors, eight hundred people being present. Mr. Kronold says it was the largest and most enthusiastic audience he ever played to in New Jersey. Every number on the programme had to be repeated. This quartette has just completed a course of three concerts in Stamford, Conn. This was their experience: At the first concert Casino Hall was half full; for the second, 160 additional tickets were sold, and at the third concert the attendance was so large that the hall would not accommodate the crowd, and the management at once arranged to repeat the first concert for the benefit of those who had not heard it. At the conclusion of the third concert, so great was the enthusiasm that a musical club was started, and the Banner-Kronold Quartette was engaged for a series of six concerts to be given next season. We have no hesitation in assuring those of our friends who buy tickets for the Banner-Kronold concerts that are to be given here that they will get the worth of their money.

Musical Events.

The managers of the Jarvie Memorial Library have engaged the Banner-Kronold String Quartette of New York, which will give two subscription concerts, one on Tuesday, March 2, and the second on Thursday, April 7. The quartette members are Michael Banner, first violin; Richard Poltman, second violin; Hans Kronold, violoncello, and Philip Herford, viola. The patronesses of the concert are: Mrs. Amzi Dodd, Mrs. Thos. Oakes, Mrs. Edward G. Ward, Mrs. Allison Dodd, Mrs. H. E. Richards, Mrs. Frederick Crane, Mrs. H. M. Barrett, Mrs. S. W. Duffield, Mrs. Edward Baldwin, Mrs. J. S. G. Tierrez, Mrs. Stewart Campbell, Mrs. W. H. White, Mrs. Wm. P. Sutphen, Mrs. F. W. Capen, Miss Josephine Davis, Miss Tanner, Mrs. G. Lee Stout, Mrs. W. C. Stout, Mrs. Theodore Ward, Mrs. L. B. Barrett, Mrs. J. D. Gallagher, Mrs. George A. Pauli, Mrs. H. E. Worcester, Mrs. Henry P. Dodd, Mrs. C. W. Smith, Mrs. G. W. Cook, Mrs. Wm. B. Broughton, Mrs. W. A. Collins, Mrs. Ella N. Williamson, Mrs. John Newton, Mrs. Lamberson Sherwood, Miss Garabrant. The entertainment committee consists of John Newton, Wm. P. Sutphen, Dr. Harry E. Richards and James N. Jarvie.

Jacob G. Post's Funeral.

Funeral rites over the body of Police Recorder Jacob G. Post took place Sunday afternoon in Christ Episcopal Church. The Rev. Edwin Augustine White, rector of the church, officiated. There was a large attendance of the friends of the deceased. Many town officials were there. Mr. Post was a charter member of Bloomfield Lodge No. 788, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, and the members of that lodge attended the funeral in a body, and members of the order were the pallbearers. They were Zebulon G. Wood, Harry Weeks, Samuel J. MacDonald, George Peterson, John R. Conlan, and William L. Johnson. The Elks, led by Exalted Ruler Dr. Joseph C. Sallie, had charge of the services at the grave. At the service in the church the vested choir sang "Nearer, my God to Thee," and "Lead, Kindly Light."

The First Ward Republican Club, of which Mr. Post was for many years an active member, was represented at the funeral by a number of members.

To Take Off Tunnel Roof.

Following the recent announcement by Chief Counsel Walter W. Ross of the Lackawanna Railroad, that the company was contemplating the conversion of the Beigen tunnel into an open cut, comes the information that Chief Engineer Lincoln Bush has just made a report in which he shows that the plan to blast the roof of the present bore is entirely practicable. No estimate of the cost of the work, however, has yet been submitted, but Assistant Engineer Neale is busy on the figures.

Approximately, the work is expected to entail an outlay of at least \$2,000,000, but Mr. Ross says that the directors will probably authorize the inception of the project as soon as they see and approve the plans.

Leap Year Dance.

A leap year dance will be held at Central Hall, February 29. The patronesses are Mrs. John Newton, Mrs. E. W. Sutton, Mrs. Samuel W. Duffield, Mrs. William H. White, Mrs. Edward Griffin Ward, and Mrs. Thomas Oakes. The committee in charge consists of the Misses Newton, Duncan, Bennett, and Mrs. Piny A. Boyd.

PROTECT your securities and valuable papers against FIRE and BURGLARS by renting a box in the Safe Deposit Vault of The Bloomfield National Bank. Boxes to rent at \$4.00 per year and upwards.—Adv.

THE WATER QUESTION.

The Fidelity Trust Company of Newark will guarantee the Bond Issue if the Proceedings Have Been Regular—The Trust Company Invited to Satisfy Itself on that Point by Examination—A Standing Far Offer for the Bonds—More Propositions to Furnish Water.

Those people who voted in favor of the purchase of the Orange Water Company's plant for \$90,000, have been anxious to hear of some action on the part of the Town Council tending towards carrying out the wishes of the people as expressed at the polls. The delay on the part of the Council gave rise to rumors to the effect that the election was not legal, and the rumors have been persistently repeated and widely circulated. The Town Council took action on Monday night that will speedily settle all disputes on the point of legality.

Councilman W. F. Harrison, Chairman of the Water Committee, reported to the Council that the Fidelity Trust Company of Newark would guarantee the water bonds providing the proceedings in connection with their issuance were regular, and the trust company will make an examination of the proceedings, and also of the resolution that has been prepared, authorizing the issue of the bonds. A report is expected from the trust company next Tuesday night, and if it is satisfactory, the bonds will be issued, and will be guaranteed by the Fidelity Trust Company. If there has been any irregularity in the proceedings, the Water Committee of the Council will immediately move for another election.

Councilman Walker has been the only member of the Council who has steadily and aggressively opposed the purchase of the water plant, and it is Mr. Walker who has most persistently challenged the legality of the election. Mr. Walker bases his conviction on his own interpretation of the election laws, and also from opinions, legal, semi-legal, and lay, that he has gathered in the course of his agitation of the question of the legality of the election.

Dr. Harrison has all along maintained that all the proceedings were in accordance with the statute requirements, and that the town attorney, by whose advice the Water Committee was guided in every step taken, is supported by well-known authorities whose experience makes them competent judges of the question.

On the other hand, Dr. Harrison admits that some lawyers of good standing, and whose opinion is entitled to the highest respect, have expressed some doubt as to the question of legality of the proceedings, and for that reason the Water Committee decided upon the course announced by it Monday night.

It has been intimated that there would be difficulty in disposing of the water bonds owing to the unsettled state of the financial market. The bonds will be duly advertised and proposals for them solicited. It is possible that the professional bond dealers may not bid for the bonds, but the bonds will not go below par. The Water Committee, it is understood, is in possession of a par offer for the entire issue if the Fidelity Company's report is satisfactory.

Since the election held on January 19, the Water Committee has received several more propositions from parties desiring to furnish the town with water, and the prospect at present is that when the town gets possession of the plant there will be a varied choice of water supplies to select from.

Firemen's Exempt Bill.

Assemblyman Dairymple of Passaic introduced in the House on Tuesday the bill drawn by William A. Cotter of Newark, which is intended to overcome the constitutional objections found by the courts to the tax exemptions formerly allowed to exempt firemen, members of fire departments and members of the National Guard, with the veterans of the several wars of the United States. The bill gives to all active firemen a tax exemption of \$500 on real and personal property, and applies also to exempt firemen, members of salvage corps, general and staff officers, commissioned and noncommissioned officers, musicians and privates of the National Guard, and all honorably discharged soldiers and sailors of the United States who served in the civil war or in the war with Spain, or in the war in the Philippines, and their widows during their widowhood. The bill exempts the same persons from any poll tax.

Exchequer Club Meeting.

The Wednesday afternoon Exchequer Club held a meeting this week at the home of Mrs. Edward Leacyoff in Franklin street. The prize, a silver-plated tray, was won by Mrs. Frank De Moyns. The next meeting will be held at the home of Mrs. Raymond Sigler, Bloomfield avenue, Montclair, on the 27th.

SENATE BILL 110.

An Act Codifying the Town Laws—An Appointed Excise Board a Feature of the Act—A Mayor of the Town Among the New Officers.

Senate bill 110, introduced by Senator Bacheller, is the codification bill that is of great local importance. If it becomes a law a number of changes will be made in local government.

The following are some of the features of the bill. It provides for the election of a Mayor for a term of two years.

The Town Council will consist of two members from each ward and a member at-large, the latter to act as President of the Council and in case of disability of the Mayor to act in that capacity.

The annual town election will be held Tuesday, April 2, and a Board of Canvassers meets on Friday succeeding the election and canvasses the vote.

The officers of the town shall be a mayor, councilman-at-large, ward councilman, town clerk, collector, treasurer, attorney, assessor, recorder, commissioner of appeal (one from each ward), overseer of the poor, surveyor, pound keepers, three commissioners of assessment, chief of police, fire chief, three constables from each ward and justices of the peace, superintendent of public works.

The town clerk, collector, assessor and treasurer hold office for three years, the recorder two years, overseer of the poor two years, chief fire department two years.

The Council is empowered by ordinance to appoint a Board of Excise consisting of three members.

The bill is a lengthy one, containing 162 clauses, and provides for Sinking Fund Commissioners, Assessment Commissioners, who shall levy assessments for improvements, and there is provision made for the annexation of territory to a town.

The bill provides for the purchase and construction of a water plant by the Town Council.

The ordinance power of the Council under the act is extensive.

The codification bill is the only one now before the Legislature likely to effect the local government.

Two Towns Sued.

Suit will be brought in the Second District Court, Newark, this morning against this town and the town of Montclair. The action is brought to secure damages in an accident case.

At the time of the October flood a cave-in occurred in the Franklin street sewer trench, and an out of town express driver, not aware of the dangerous condition of the street, drove into the hole in the street and damaged his vehicle. He asks \$300 damages. The sewer trench in which the accident occurred is that of the Montclair outlet sewer, in which this town is jointly interested with Montclair. When the hole in the street was discovered Superintendent of Public Works Harry Cooper notified the Montclair Sewer Superintendent, and men were sent from that town to repair the street. Several town officials from both towns will appear as witnesses in the case.

To Control Elections.

A movement that had long been privately discussed was officially inaugurated on Thursday by the Essex County Board of Elections. It is to secure a law to place the control of all elections—municipal, county and State—in the hands of the county boards, and to relieve city and county clerks of all conduction therewith. The present unsatisfactory condition of affairs with the powers of municipal and county clerks undefined has given rise to much misunderstanding and working at cross purposes.

Grand Patriotic Service.

What is termed a grand patriotic service will be held to-night in the chapel of the Waseensing M. E. Church under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association. Mr. James Walker of Newark will deliver an address on the subject of "Patriotism." An orchestra will furnish music, and songs will be sung. The public is cordially invited to attend the service. A silver collection will be taken at the door.

For the Public.

The patriotic service to be held this evening in the Waseensing Chapel is for the public, and not for boys only. The orchestra will be composed of the following well known musicians: Mr. Kaufman, Mr. Arthur Allor, Mr. Downs, Mrs. Downs (accompanist), Mr. Scholes and Mr. Hochstetel, and perhaps others. Special address by a very eloquent speaker on "Patriotism."

Exempt's Meeting.

The Firemen's Relief Association, of which William L. Johnson is the President, met at the headquarters of Excelsior Hose Company No. 3, in Broad street last night, when important action was taken toward the relief of several members who are ill.

Board of Health.

The Board of Health held its regular monthly meeting Thursday night. Inspector Seymour P. Gilbert submitted his customary report on the sanitary condition of the town. The water supply, Mr. Gilbert said, was reported by the board's chemist to be of good quality. The cases of contagious sickness in the town were comparatively few, considering the severe winter weather and the liability to colds and coughs. Several nuisances brought to the attention of the board by complaining property-owners, the inspector said had been abated.

Michael McGinness, the owner of the premises No. 408 Bloomfield avenue, was ordered by the board to make a sewer connection with the premises.

Inspector Gilbert called the attention of the board to a bill before the Legislature empowering boards of health to compel owners of low lands where accumulation of stagnant water occurred. The bill is one, the inspector said, that is intended to assist in the stamping-out of the mosquito pest.

William L. Johnson, clerk of the board, submitted his report as registrar of vital statistics. The report showed the number of deaths in the town for the year past, 130; births, 213; marriages, 70; cases of contagious sickness, 120, over half of which were measles. The death rate as shown by the report is 12 deaths per 1,000 inhabitants, a remarkably low rate, and no doubt in part due to the vigilance and activity of the Board of Health.

Protecting Corporations.

In the House of Assembly on Tuesday Mr. Swackhamer of Somerset looked horns with Mr. Elvins of Atlantic over the latter's bill to prevent any municipality from establishing an electric lighting plant in opposition to private concern already in existence.

"There is a decided tendency in this State and a growing sentiment in favor of municipal ownership of such public enterprises," said Mr. Swackhamer. "If this bill passes it will go a long way toward discouraging this feature of life in our State. More than that, it prevents any municipality which is not receiving proper consideration from the private corporations supplying electric light and power from giving to the people the relief they should have."

Mr. Elvins retorted that the bill simply aims to protect the private corporations which have, at the invitation of municipalities, set up their plants and gone into business at large expense. The bill passed third reading.

Lenten Services.

The preachers for the Lenten services in Christ Episcopal Church on Wednesday nights will be as follows: February 24, Rev. Dr. W. M. Hughes, Rector of the Church of the Redeemer, Morristown; March 2, Rev. Appleton Grannis, Senior Curate of St. Michael's Church, New York; March 9, Rev. James M. Van Ingen of St. Stephen's Church, Milburn; March 16, Rev. Louis S. Osborne of Trinity Church, Newark; March 23, Rev. Philemon F. Sturgis of St. Peter's Church, Morristown; March 30, Rev. Dr. Gilbert H. Sterling of the Church of the Holy Nativity, South Bethlehem, Pa. On Easter Day the church will celebrate its tenth anniversary in the present edifice. Bishop Lines will preach the sermon and administer the rite of confirmation.

Pro-Lenten Tea.

A pro-Lenten tea was given Tuesday afternoon by Mrs. H. Cristenden Harris at her residence on Ridgewood avenue, Glen Ridge. Mr. Edward S. Mitchell of New York received with Mrs. Harris and the others who assisted were: Mrs. Talbot Root, Mrs. Edward E. Wright, Mrs. John B. Phillips, Mrs. Frederick Schell, Mrs. Walter E. Powers, Mrs. Rufus Gowing, Jr., Mrs. Job F. Angell and Miss Van Bokkelen, all of Glen Ridge. Those who presided at the tea table were: Mrs. J. W. Harris, Mrs. Edward P. Mitchell and Mrs. Herbert C. Newell. The prevailing color was pink, the flowers being tulips, with smilax and ferns. Mrs. Harris was gowned in white crepe de chine. Mrs. Edward S. Mitchell wore a gown of light blue silk.

Death of John Koerber.

John Koerber died of pneumonia in the Mountside Hospital, Montclair, Wednesday afternoon. He was a hatter, but had not worked recently on account of poor health. Koerber was a veteran of the civil war, having served the first year of that struggle with the Third New Jersey Cavalry, and later enlisting in the Reserve Corps. He was a member of William S. Pierson Post No. 58, G. A. R., of this town, and was sixty-two years old. Two sons and a daughter survive him.

The Yellow Peril.

Rev. Dr. C. M. Woodruff will preach in the Park M. E. Church Sunday morning and evening. The topic for the morning will be "Putting on the Harness;" in the evening, "The Yellow Peril, or the Probable Outcome of the War between Russia and Japan."

TOWN COUNCIL.

HELD A BUSY SESSION MONDAY NIGHT.

George M. Cadmus Appointed Police Recorder—Complaint About Flat Wheels on Trolley Cars—The Linden Avenue Case Up Again—Newark to Pay the Town \$1,750.

The Town Council held a busy session Monday night. One of the important items of business transacted was the appointment of a Police Recorder to fill the unexpired term of the late Jacob Post. Justice of the Peace George M. Cadmus, who filled the position during Mr. Post's illness, was regarded as in line for the appointment, but last week a rivalry for the position developed, and there was some doubt about the appointment of Mr. Cadmus. The latter's friends got to work eventually, and on Monday night the necessary four votes were secured. Mr. Cadmus was named for the position by Councilman Walker, and Councilman Conlan named Howard M. Van Tassel, Messrs. Walker, Chabot, Moore and Farrand voted for Cadmus, and Messrs. Conlan and Harrison voted for Mr. Van Tassel.

Councilman Harrison reported that residents along Broad street were much annoyed by the unnecessary noise made by the Orange and Passaic Railway Company in passing along the tracks. The noise was said to be due to "flat" wheels. The complaint was referred to the franchise committee.

Some tax matters were referred to the Legal Committee for investigation and report. One of them was an important tax claim against the property of Gustav Rist in Brookdale. The claim is for taxes of several years' standing, but Mr. Rist showed a tax search obtained from Tax Collector Hardcastle showing the property clear from tax claims.

On recommendation of Councilman Moore the Tax Collector was instructed to cancel from the books the erroneous assessments levied on the Benson property in Orchard street.

A petition for street lights on Liberty avenue was referred to the Street Lighting Committee.

Councilman Moore of the Sidewalk Committee was prepared to submit an extended report on the Linden avenue improvement assessment case. Owing to some difference of opinion as to the power of the Council to make assessments without first having the assessment amended in the regular way by the Board of Assessors, the report was laid over for further consideration.

When the city of Newark proposed to lay a large water main from the Cedar Grove reservoir along Bloomfield avenue through this town, it was arranged between the Town Council and the Newark Water Department that the compensation to this town for its consent of right of way should be an eight-inch sewer pipe along Bloomfield avenue south of Waseensing avenue and to connect with the city's sewerage system. It was afterward learned that Newark had as yet not provided a sewerage for the district along the city line, and as a consequence no outlet was available for the proposed Bloomfield avenue sewer, and as the construction of the sewer was estimated to cost \$1,750, the Newark Water Department offered to pay that sum in money in lieu of the sewer, and Monday night Councilman Moore introduced a resolution by which the Council accepted the cash payment instead.

After paying a number of bills the Council adjourned to meet Tuesday night next, when reports on the water question, the fire-house question and the Linden avenue case will be submitted.

The Behman Show.

The management of the Empire Theatre, Newark, announces the coming of the Behman Show next week. This means a great treat for theatre-goers, as this combination of stellar talent is the result of wide experience, great expense and careful selection.

For headliners they present the Russell Brothers, famed from ocean to ocean as the representative fun-makers in vaudeville; they will be seen in Geo. M. Cohan's farcical sketch entitled "A Romance of New Jersey." Felix and Barry will appear in their bit of comedy which they call "The Doings of Johnnie Jones." Miss Barry stunningly gowned will sing. The Roscoe Midgets, the greatest little men in the business, will tumble, box and wrestle. Charlie Howsow has a new offering in the song; which introduces a clever bit of dancing as well. Sullivan and Pasquella have a bit of Bowery alum life that is more realistic. Miss Pasquella's quick change and artistic dance under spotlight effect is a pretty piece of work. The three Livingstons, a team of marvelous cleverness, have an acrobatic offering. Burton and Brooks masters of repartee, have a brand new sketch entitled "A Case of Humor." Matinee Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.

Violin and piano instruction in pupils' home or teacher's residence. For terms address William J. Malm No. 47 Fairmount avenue, Newark, N. J.—Adv.

